

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-17 are pending in the application. Claims 4, 7, 10 and 14 had been amended to correct obvious clerical errors identified in the Office Action. Claims 1, 15 and 17 have been amended to more clearly define the invention.

Claims 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11 and 14 stand objected to based on obvious clerical errors. Claims 4, 7, 10 and 14 have been amended to correct these clerical errors. Claims 5, 8 and 11 each depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 4. Accordingly, the objections to claims 4, 5, 7, 8, 10-11 and 14 are overcome.

Claims 1-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States patent number 5,886,659 to Pain et al. (Pain) in view of United States patent number 6,075,384 to Sim et al. (Sim).

The present invention relates to a high-resolution CMOS circuit using a matched impedance output transmission line. Claims 1 recites:

An image sensor, comprising: an image acquisition portion; an image processing portion, receiving image information from said image acquisition portion, said image processing portion including a CMOS circuitry with CMOS differential outputs having an output impedance; and an image receiving portion, having an input impedance, receiving said image information from said CMOS outputs, said image processing portion producing a current mode output and said image receiving portion receiving said current mode output; and an impedance matching device, matching said output impedance of said image processing portion to said input impedance of said image receiving portion. (Emphasis added).

The Pain reference relates to on-focal-plane analog-to-digital conversion for current-mode imaging devices. Pain includes "a current-mode sensing array with sensing pixels in rows and columns and an on-focal-plane ADC array...[t]he ADC array has a plurality of

current-mode ADCs each corresponding to one column of sensing pixels in the sensing array." Column 1, line 66-column 2, line 1.

The Office Action acknowledges that Pain does not disclose "an impedance matching device, matching said output impedance of said image processing portion to said input impedance of said image receiving portion." In an attempt to overcome this deficiency, the Office Action proposes to combine the Pain reference with Sim. Even accepting, *arguendo*, that such combination may properly be made, Pain and Sim together still do not teach or suggest every element of claim 1. Whether considered alone or in combination, Pain and Sim do not teach or suggest an "image processing portion including a CMOS circuitry with CMOS differential outputs," (emphasis added). Therefore it follows that, for at least this reason, the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Pain in view of Sim is overcome.

Claims 2-14 each depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1 and incorporate every limitation thereof. Accordingly, the rejections of claims 2-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Pain in view of Sim are overcome for at least the reasons given above in relation to claim 1.

Claims 15 recites a unique combination of limitations including "an image processing portion, receiving image information from said image acquisition portion at a differential input," (emphasis added). Pain and Sim, whether taken alone or in commendation, do not teach or suggest "an image processing portion, receiving image information... at a differential input." For at least this reason, the rejection of claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Pain in view of Sim is overcome. Claims 16 and 17 each depend, direct or indirectly, from claim 15. Accordingly, the rejections of claims 16 and 17 are also overcome for the same reasons as claim 15.

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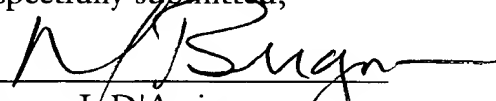
Docket No.: M4065.0767/P767

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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